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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF :  
TAKAYUKI KODA, ET AL. : EXAMINER: C.L. FRONDA  
SERIAL NO: 10/077,745 :  
FILED: FEBRUARY 20, 2002 : GROUP ART UNIT: 1652  
FOR: ORGANIC NITROGEN-CONTAINING COMPOSITION AND FERTILIZER  
COMPRISING THE SAME

COMMENTS

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

One of ordinary skill in the art can obtain a derivative strain of AJ13355 (FERM BP-6614) which can be used in the claimed method without undue experimentation.

Recombinant DNA techniques and mutagenesis treatments are described in detail in page 15, line 24 to page 23, line 6, of the specification. One of ordinary skill in the art can easily obtain a derivative strain of AJ13355 by modifying AJ13355 with such recombinant DNA techniques or mutagenesis treatments. Furthermore, the obtained derivatives strain can also produce L-glutamic acid at low pH as in the case of AJ13355 strain, and therefore, one of ordinal skill in the art can perform the method of the present invention by using a derivative strain of AJ13355 without undue experimentation.

Respectfully submitted,

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